

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RIO DE 00411 061957Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /039 W
----- 057402

R 061815Z FEB 75

FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2091
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
AMCONSUL RECIFE UNN
AMCONSUL BELEM UNN
AMCONSUL SALVADOR UNN
AMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE UNN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, BR

SUBJECT: METALWORKER'S ELECTION

1. ANTI-GOVERNMENT FORCES WON A SIGNIFICANT VICTORY
IN AN IMPORTANT UNION ELECTION HELD ON JANUARY 29. WITH
MORE THAN 7,500 VOTES TABULATED, ANTI-GOVERNMENT FORCES
HAVE CAPTURED CONTROL OF THE RIO DE JANEIRO METALWORKER'S
UNION, POLLING APPROXIMATELY 56 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL. THE
UNION, WHICH HAS A LONG HISTORY OF COMMUNIST INFILTRATION, HAD
BEEN UNDER GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION FOR APPROXIMATELY
A YEAR.

2. THE VICTORIOUS SLATE WAS HEADED BY A RELATIVE UNKNOWN,
ADALBERTO DE OLIVEIRA. FURTHER, THE UNION'S PRESIDENT AT
THE TIME OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INTERVENTION, PIERRE FRANCOIS
COPPIETERS, WAS ELECTED AN EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER,
OVERCOMING OPEN OPPOSITION BY REGIONAL LABOR DELEGATE
LUIZ CARLOS BRITO.

3. COMMENT: THE METALWORKERS HAVE JURISDICTION OVER

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ALL METAL, MACHINE, AUTOMOBILE AND ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE

WORKERS IN RIO DE JANEIRO AND THE OUTLYING SUBURBS.
IMPORTANT FACTORIES WHICH FALL UNDER ITS JURISDICTION
ARE THE FABRICA NACIONAL DOS MOTORES, GENERAL ELECTRIC,
AND WESTINGHOUSE. THE UNION HEADQUARTERS GAINED
CONSIDERABLE NOTORIETY DURING THE 1964 REVOLUTION
WHEN IT WAS THE SCENE OF MUTINIOUS MEETINGS OF THE SAILOR'S
ASSOCIATION. THERE IS CONSIDERABLE DOUBT AS TO
WHETHER OR NOT THE GOVERNMENT WILL ALLOW THE NEW
EXECUTIVE BOARD TO TAKE OFFICE. THE DEFEATED PRO-
GOVERNMENT CANDIDATE, JOSE FERNANDES, HOWEVER, HAS
ACKNOWLEDGED DEFEAT AND SAID HE WILL NOT CHALLENGE THE
IMPRESSIVE OPPOSITION VICTORY.

MILLER

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Message Attributes

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